

THE MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB, INC.

1944 Bulletin # 8.

Aug. 25, 1944.

Dear Members:

The summer is gradually passing, the crickets are beginning to chirp and in a few weeks the MRAC will again be going in full swing. We were afraid of the summer months' drought of news, but the Boys came through splendidly. In June we received 23 letters and July hit the 29 mark.

In gathering our "dope" we ran across the following poem which we render for your pleasure:

If a WAC is a lady substitute,
Who releases a man for the war;
And a WAVE sends a sailor bold to the seas
While a Coast Guard is freed by a SPAR;
If a WOW releases a man for the front
When she pinch-hits at his machine,
Does that make a Lady Leatherneck
A female sub-MARINE?

Getting down to the latest news, we find the following:

Wm. Drossman, W9EQP, became the proud papa of a jr. opr. July 21st. Congratulations, Bill.

Charlie Brown of Radio Parts Co., dropped us a line to acknowledge receipt of the bulletins. He asks for two copies as, by the end of the month, the one starts to look pretty shabby. He wrote of his son, Stanley, who we all remember as a little boy running around the store, just having finished his boot training at Great Lakes. Charlie quotes Stanley as saying, that when he went into the Navy he had his clothes off and on so many times that if he hadn't passed the examination he surely could have gotten a job at the Empress.

After the DX experience of last month, the Boys are all hopped up waiting for similar conditions. These are reported to be manifested by chilly weather, followed by a heat wave, with rain in the interim. Listening conditions are an eerie voidness, like the night before Christmas (which may be anticipation or something you ate) punctuated by so-called dead spots, erratic local signals, weakening and fluttering around until finally, Boom! DX.

Herbert Wareing, W9NY, Radio Aide, called a WERS meeting on July 19th, at the Police Training School in the Safety Bldg. Twenty-eight operators were present. Some of the South Side boys reported diathermy interference. Discussions took place regarding the advantages of separate quenched over self quenched super-regenerative receivers. The consensus seemed to boil down to the old axiom, "You can't work 'em if you can't hear 'em." Bob Lathrop, engineer of the Waukesha Police Radio and a captain in the Civilian Air Patrol, gave a talk on CAP radio equipment and elaborated on his experiences with separate quenched super-regenerative receivers.

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† Let's stick this guy for a couple of drinks, said one mosquito to the other.

One of our Units has a coaxial antenna that was mounted on top of a flag pole. The neighbors not being hams, but only curious citizens, wanted to know why the flag was always at half-mast. Orders came through to have flag and mast as before and the coaxial antenna had to be placed elsewhere. Along with a lot of other training programs, John Q. Public should be educated in order to better understand and cope with the wiles and whimsies of the struggling ham. Don't you think so, fellas?

Emil Felber, W9RH, had Unit # 22 on the air for drill and his signal had a beautiful feed-back hum that sounded something like a lonesome and dejected coyote calling to its mate. Charlie Meyer, W9GVL, has practised it on his saxophone and can give an imitation which he is saving for posterity.

As the little bug said as he hit the windshield, "That's me all over."

August 2nd all WERS stations noticed that peculiar fluttering and sure enough DX came in again, but only for about 15 minutes. Several WHHI units (Chicago) were heard and local signals were very erratic. Aug. 13th, our unit # 10 at Shorewood and unit # 5 heard WKOJ # 5, the CAP station at Waukesha, and a plane, WKOJ # 17, flying between Waukesha and Milwaukee.

August 14th a familiar voice was heard over Unit # 10. It was none other than Wendell Ciganek, W9SYT, who was in town for a few days. He's got the same old line, only that now he has turned professional and charges \$18.50 per hour.

Communications were received from the following:

Pfc. Daniel Grether, Army Airways Communications System, wrote from Greenland. Dan is a native of the Sheboygan neighborhood and visited the MRAC two winters ago when he was a pupil at the NYA radio school.

Pvt. Curtis Schultz, wrote from somewhere in India where he is attached to an Air Corps outfit, dividing his time between radio operating and observer.

T/Sgt. Eugene Berens forgot to notify us of a change in his address and his mail was returned. This again meant tracing back to his folks to find out his whereabouts. To compensate for the loss of time, trouble and expense entailed in locating the Boys, we are getting to know their folks, sisters, wives and girl friends. We have to fight the rest of the 4H and 4Fers in order to hang on to our job.

Leroy Spanheimer, ART 1/C was home on a furlough, but did not get a chance to see the boys. Upon leaving he ran across Herb Wareing, W9NY, by chance, and the latter relayed the information to us.

Wendell Ciganek, W9SYT, dropped cards from Pittsburgh, Bay City, Lorain and reported as also having been to Chicago, Manitowoc, Detroit and Cleveland.

Comdr. Fred Catel, USNR, W9DTK, dropped us a card from Alaska, acknowledging Bulletin # 6.

Cpl. James Wolff, W9CRK, wrote from Idaho, where he is attached to a B-24 Liberator bomber and soon expects to be shipped to combat. He wrote a swell letter covering his army career for the past 3½ years. He also explained his new rating. Jimmie was a T/Sgt. in the Army Communications System, a 50 WPM man on a high speed net. He wanted a transfer to the Air Corps, for reasons entirely his own. In order to go from one specialized department to another, he firstly had to be "busted" and start his new job from the ground up. So that's why Jim is now only a Cpl., but we bet he'll have his old rating back soon, if we know our Jimmie.

M/Sgt. Lester Gerlach, Signal Corps, W9UPM, wrote a dandy letter from the East, where he is instructor of radio theory. Les mentioned DX on 45 megacycles on July 7th, when he heard WWZR, the Zenith FM station, Chicago.

1st Lt. Sid Rose, Air Transport Command, W9VKC, our most distant and most reliable correspondent, wrote his monthly letter from India. He told of going through the Khyber Pass and meeting some Americans, who were so overjoyed to see them that they put themselves out to the extent of tapping their horde of beer. It wasn't Gettelman's, but the good old brown bottled stuff we know as Schlitz.

Roman Hudzinski, ACRM, W9JPS, wrote from his air station on the East coast. He called his letter the JPS News Service and it was accompanied by several snapshots of Larry, Kathie, ex-YL Harriet and the OM himself, not forgetting a beautiful background of the JPS coat-of-arms, being, to wit: a cast iron radiator, rampant.

Ensign George Pfister, USNR, W9IZQ, wrote from Texas. He says their newest and at present important talk is preparing for hurricanes, while his Chevie is slowly and steadily rusting away.

Warrant Officer Ted Kercher, USN, K6SNW, exW9HWY, dropped us a line from England. He mentioned meeting a civilian over there from Milwaukee who had seen him years ago at the MRAC. According to our files, that must be Art Kaufman, W9UMP, who wrote last month that he ran into Ted in England. Small world, eh!

Lt. Pasquale Eannelli, Signal Corps, W4HNP, exW9UHZ, wrote from somewhere in France. Pat said the hardest part to read, in our Bulletin, is dope on Jamborees with the hamburgers, onions and beer. Try eating "K" rations, "C" rations and "10 in one" rations for a while and then read about jamborees! It makes one very hungry and homesick.

Irv Weinman, W9HMO, wrote from Madison. He taught code at Truax Field for 2 years, but has been transferred to the Naval Training School at the U. of W., where he is teaching the high speed boys.

Lt. Elmer Heib, Signal Corps, W9RRT, wrote from Italy. His Bulletin does double duty, as he passes it on to W9RPW, a Kansas City lad who is over Africa way.

Sgt. James Fischer wrote from somewhere in France. He sends regards to the MRAC Gang.

Cpl. Frank Detzek wrote from Kansas. He enjoys the Bulletin, especially the "side line" stuff.

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Russ Burss, W9RKP, dropped a card from Scott Field, Ill., where he is a civilian radio instructor. He is recuperating from an operation that he combined with his last visit home.

Sgt. R. C. Butler wrote a V-mail letter from New Guinea. He just received the January Bulletin. We hope this one gets to you faster.

Pfc. John Deisinger dropped a line from Maryland. On his last trip home he was at Unit # 22 when the Chicago DX came in. He surely got a thrill out of it.

T/4 Ed. Strzelczyk, W9ANK, wrote from England. Another ham in his outfit likes our Bulletin too, so that he is informing his gang back home to get out something like it.

Lt.(jg) Louis Wollaeger, USNR, W9ANA, wrote from the Southwest Pacific. He wishes to be remembered to the Gang.

In closing we thought the following might be a good topper offer:

Judge: "So you say the defendant stole your money from your stocking?"

Plaintiff: "Yes, your honor."

Judge: "Then, why didn't you resist?"

Plaintiff: "Well, how did I know he was after my money?"

So be careful, Boys, take good care of yourselves, drop us a line, and you will hear from us next month.

73,

The Gang.

P.S. - Don't forget to notify us of a change in your address.

Address all correspondence to:

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